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Capitol
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news

from
Hollywood

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That Real Gone Lutchter Gal . . .



Because he is still weak following an emergency operation in Hollywood, Jimmy Durante canceled his proposed "March of Dimes" tour to Chicago, New York and other cities in late January.

Peggy Lee, as a result, did not make the trip as scheduled. The photo spread on Pages 8 and 9 of this issue went to press a day or so before the trip was canceled and therefore are in error regarding Peg's trek east.

Jumpin' Joe Lutchter's band is bowl-ing 'em over at the new Congo Club, until recently famous as the Club Alabam. And Jimmy Witherspoon, one of the west coast's finest blues shouters, is on deck also. Lutchter plays alto and sings.

Pearl Bailey's success in Paramount's "Variety Girl" calls for another shot. The clever "Tired" girl, sister of Dancer Bill Bailey, checked in at Paramount in late January to be filmed in "It's Always Spring." The picture, to be produced by Danny Dare and directed by Norman Z. McLeod, will also feature Veronica Lake, Mary Hatcher, Mona Freeman, Billy DeWolfe and Patric Knowles.

Louis Armstrong says he "definitely" will fly to Paris this month for the jazz festival which Hugues Panassie will present from Feb. 25 to March 4.

Armstrong has played Paris before. His fine little combo just closed at Billy Berg's in Hollywood. Biz, however, was disappointing.

Gerald Wilson joined Count Basie's trumpet section.

Irving Berlin, back from Mexico, moved to La Quinta (near Palm Springs) to compose new songs for forthcoming Broadway show which Rodgers and Hammerstein will produce. Norman Krasna will write the book.



With One Foot On the Brass Rail

"Aw, quit worryin' about next month's taxes and have a refill on me," said the little man with the checkered necktie on the next stool. "Things are never so bad that they couldn't be worse.

"Take Trans-World Airlines, Bub. Howard Hughes has spent one million big silver dollars advertising the scientific fact that his big four-engined Connies all have 'pressurized' cabins, and that TWA passengers—even the bookin' agents—therefore travel in comfort no matter how high the altitude.

"But lemme tell you, Bub—and have another quick one, a double this time, mebbe—that I just got back from Chi on the Connie and when you're up there 23,000 feet the experience does things to a guy. You look below and see nothin' but mist, hour after hour, and you figure that away down there are farms and cows and trees and mountains and cities and people scurrying around making a buck and it gives you a different slant on life and stuff.

"Now you and me are sittin' here curing our colds," the little man with the checkered necktie went on, reaching for a swizzle-stick and slanting his eyes along the mahogany. "Once we argued about bands. Then it was girl singers. We even slipped so low one night that we were condemning and defending music critics and writers. And it don't make sense, Bub. Nope, not since I rode the Connie. Up there, you understand, those petty little things don't matter. As I said, I received a different slant on things and stuff and life in general.

"We've got time for another if we rush it. You buying? Nice of you, Bub, thanks. But back to the matter at hand. You know what Stan Kenton once told me? Naw, not that one. That traveling saleslady gag is so stale that even Bennett Cerf picked it up and used it in his third book. Stan has strong likes and dislikes—emphatic, almost platonic—like all of us. There's guys he likes and guys he detests and some, I guess, that don't hit him one way or the other. Well, and I wish they wouldn't load this glass with ice so heavy, Stan says a man is wasting his time beefing about this or that. Just shrug it off and work all the harder, Stan told me, and pretty soon—zip—you look around and wonder whatever happened to that problem that had you scared pea-green, or whatever happened to that bum who was giving you trouble?

"They just disappear, Stan noticed. I think I've noticed it too since I rode the Connie. Sammy Kaye? He ain't worrying me none these days. The Velvet Frog? He's probably a nice kid, too. For all I know, Bub, the music biz is loaded with good people. But a couple of weeks ago I didn't think so, and you didn't, either.

"My turn, and you can catch the next one—not so much ice, please—now what was that you mentioned? Records? Petrillo? Am I hearing right? You mean you actually bring up Little Caesar's name in a friendly, sociable discussion like this? Jeez, Bub, leave us not get absurd. As I just got through telling ya' not two swallows ago, Stan Kenton's philosophy is fine as far as it goes. But like uncorked bonded pinch-bottle, it don't go far enough. Even in a Connie 23,000 feet upstairs it's impossible to forget Little Caesar.

"You, ya' bum, just spoiled a whole new philosophy for a lot of us guys who need it bad."



MAN OF Disc-tinction for February is Red Ingle, whose zany "Temptation" needling sold more than a million copies last year. Watch for another Ingle offering featuring Jo Stafford again.

Dinah Shore, Harry James Teaming Up Soon On CBS

Back in action again following the birth of her long-overdue daughter (see page 13), Dinah Shore is prepared to launch her new radio program this month under auspices of Philip Morris cigs via CBS.

Dinah will share billing and music

with Harry James' orchestra. James once was sponsored by Chesterfields. Dinah sold Lucky Strikes via the Hit Parade.

Feb. 6 is the date tentatively set by Shore and James to start the new series. Dinah also is preparing to make a movie at U-I studios.

St. Louis Next For 'Gone Gal'

(This Month's Cover Feature)

With an entire album of her lively songs to be released in early March, Nellie Lutcher rolls in high gear to the State Theater, Hartford, Feb. 6, 7 and 8. Then she moves into New York to sing on Jack Smith's CBS program Feb. 9.

Then the "real gone gal" goes west for a Feb. 13 opening at the swank Chase Hotel in St. Louis. She's set for three weeks there. During the latter part of her run Mel Torme also will be appearing in St. Louis, at the Park Plaza Hotel.

Her album, Nellie revealed, will feature three Lutcher originals and three popular standards, including "The One I Love Belongs to Somebody Else," "Reaching for the Moon" and "Sleepy Lagoon."

Goodman Heading For Venezuela's Oil Fields

Benny Goodman will satisfy another of his boyhood ambitions this month when he shoves off, via airplane, for an extended vacation in South America.

Accompanied by his wife, Alice, Goodman will fly from Hollywood to Miami and from the Florida city to Caracas, Venezuela.

"I've always wanted to see Venezuela," said Benny, who has never toured South America before. "They say it's one of the biggest oil-production centers in the world."

Would he continue down to Rio, and perhaps, Buenos Aires?

"Not this trip," he said. "I've got friends in Venezuela."

Benny didn't elaborate on the oil angle, nor did he justify its connection with music. But he said he would take along his clarinet and a "big box" of reeds just to keep in practice.

Pending passport redtape, he declared

he and Mrs. Goodman would leave California about Feb. 5 and return in "four or five weeks." They hope to return via Mexico City. While he's gone, Capitol will release a new BG biscuit featuring, as "guest" vocalist, Peggy Lee. The two have recorded together many times, but never before on the Capitol label.

Theaters, Concerts for Cole Trio This Month

The King Cole Trio splits its engagements this month, combining theaters and concerts.

Nat Cole, Johnny Miller and Irving Ashby open at the Royal Theater, Baltimore, Feb. 6 for a week and then play concerts until their run at the Chicago Oriental starts Feb. 19.

Heywood, Dickenson On Stand With La Belle Ella

Eddie Heywood's piano and trio and Vic Dickenson's trombone and sextet will share the bandstand with Ella Fitzgerald when the "first lady of song" opens at Billy Berg's Club in Hollywood the night of Feb. 18.

Heywood racked up big returns on his previous appearances at Berg's with a small band, but little is known of his new threesome. Trombonist Dickenson also has been featured at Berg's previously, with good box-office results.

'Victor' Score Set

David Buttolph will write the score for "To The Victor" which Warner Brothers is producing with Dennis Morgan and Viveca Lindfors starred.



ALL CALIFORNIA awaits Ella Fitzgerald's appearance at Billy Berg's Club starting Feb. 18. She hasn't appeared in California in years. And despite woeful conditions in west coast niteries, musicians are predicting that La Belle Fitz will have 'em lined up in the street once her engagement gets under way.

Les Paul, His Guitars Signed For Cap Discs

Signing of Les Paul and his "trick" guitar antics for future releases on the Capitol label was announced last month by James B. Conkling, head of Cap's artists and repertoire department.

Paul, who also is known in music circles as Rhubarb Red, first became popular as a member of Fred Waring's Pennsylvanians. He has lived in Hollywood in recent years in a house which is nationally known for the private and spacious recording studios which Paul himself designed and personally operates.

The discs which Capitol will release, however, were made shortly before the AFM ban on recording became effective Dec. 31. First two sides are scheduled for release in late February. He will be heard playing various types of guitars.

Aragon Will Fold March 1... Unless

Unless a change of management comes about, the Aragon Ballroom in nearby Ocean Park will close on March 1, thus killing another location for name bands.

Gordon Satterup, who leased the room from Owner Charles Lick for many years and operated it at a profit, is giving up the management deal. But during February he will feature Harry James as a "final" attraction. Lick is trying to find another manager. But the chances, it is said, are unfavorable.

London Gets Spike

Spike Jones' band has been booked for six weeks at the Palladium, London, opening July 4, at \$20,000 weekly for the aggregation. As far as can be determined, the salary is the biggest guaranteed weekly figure ever paid an American attraction by the British two-day house.



LENA HORNE returns home this month after her triumphal tour of France and England, followed by January appearances in the eastern U. S. Metro is eagerly awaiting her arrival so that a big-budget musical can begin.

MGM Will Make Jolson Film Sequel

MGM will make the sequel to "The Jolson Story." The big Culver City studio acquired rights to the story from Jolson last month and Gene Kelly is mentioned as being in line for the role which Larry Parks played so successfully in the Columbia entry two years ago. Jolson, of course, will sing on the soundtrack and may even be seen in some of the film's closing scenes.

Jock for KFVD Here

L. A. Station KFVD, which until now had never promoted disc jocks, changes its policy Feb. 1 and presents Eddie Chase from Detroit's CKLW. Chase will continue to be heard, transcribed, over the Detroit station.



THE VINE street mob gathered outside the Morocco Club the other afternoon and watched U. S. internal revenue agents move out the tables and stock, then padlock the doors.

Owners of the spot, at one time fabulous money-maker, were charged with being arrears in paying their taxes to Uncle Sammy. Victim of the move was Red Ingle, whose uninhibited "Natural Seven" combo happened to be booked in the spot.

The Morocco became box-office during the war when Red Nichols' Pennies and various singers were featured. The after 18 months, Frankie Laine joined Nichols' crew at the club and the sign was up most every night. The booth was never the same, however, after Laine left.

There has been no announcement as to when—or if—the place will reopen.

J. Caesar Petrillo condescended to allow Armed Forces Radio Service to continue recording live talent for special programs designed for men overseas and in U. S. military hospitals. Ke Starr has been active waxing songs, but all to many "big name" performers, according to AFRS spokesman, apparently have forgotten America's wounded, and those serving in foreign lands.

Roy Milton recovered from a tonsillectomy and began another tour, to the east, with his combo. Bassist Dale Bartley quit Louis Jordan and joined Milton for the trip.

West coast disk jocks declare they are getting more and more attention from songpluggers as a result of Czar Petrillo's behavior.

California jukebox men report the nickel collections are off 50 per cent and all because of the tremendous loss of television popularity. With approximately 15,000 sets in use in L. A. alone, a crimp is being felt. Barflies who kept the jukeboxes spinning now eye a video screen. And nothin' much can be done about it, moan the jukesters.

Earl Warren came all the way from N. Y. to L. A. to rejoin Count Basie for the first alto. Then, a week later, the bassist left on a 3500-mile trip... back to New York.



SEEING RED? That's the way it is when Messrs. Nichols and Skelton get together. This occasion was the Al Jolson NBC program, Skelton being a guest and Nichols a member of the ork which is heard every week. Missing from the scene: Red Norvo, Red Callender, Red Ingle and a man named Thomas of Washington, D. C.

Xavier Cugat Ork Returns to Ciro's

After an absence from the Sunset Strip of several seasons, Xavier Cugat and his crew of bright-shirted musickers returned to Ciro's in late January for an engagement of four weeks.

Cugat recently played in Mexico City. He also is involved, these days, in the making of candy, sold in drugstores throughout the land as "Cugat's Nugs."

Swing Club Kayoed

The Swing Club in Hollywood, where just a few years ago some of the nation's top talent was regularly presented, lost its permit to operate on Jan. 7 and has folded. Police charged the management with presenting indecent floor shows.

Sked New Croz Film

Bing Crosby and Barry Fitzgerald will team again at Paramount, for the third time, in "Diamond In the Haystack" which Robert Welch will produce. The story is an original by Edmund Beloin. Crosby just last month completed work in Para's "A Connecticut Yankee."

155 CBS Stations Air Gordon MacRae Program; Soon To Start Film, Too

Gordon MacRae's potent, virile baritone voice is nabbing top billing over 155 CBS stations coast to coast on the new Texaco show which teed off Jan. 4 from the Hollywood studios of the network.

Ed Cashman produces the 30-minute musical. Glenn Wheaton is the writer and Jimmy Wallington announces.

MacRae launched the new program—in the spot (and for the same sponsor) where Tony Martin formerly was heard, only two days after flying from New York, where he recorded a backlog of biscuits to be released during 1948 and 1949 on the Capitol label.

Martin's program, meantime, moved to Wednesday nights via ABC.

Also heard on MacRae's show is Evelyn Knight. The studio orchestra is conducted by the veteran Victor Young, bigwig of the Paramount Pictures music department.

MacRae is one of the busiest young men in show business these days, doubling from his new Texaco chores on CBS over to Warner Brothers for an important part in Jerry Wald's forthcoming "Rise Above It" musical. It will mark Gordie's first appearance in the movies.

'Judy' Film Will Feature 14 Tunes

Metro's Technicolor tune-film, "A Date With Judy," starring Wallace Beery, Jane Powell, Elizabeth Taylor, Carmen Miranda, Robert Stack and Xavier Cugat, will have 14 musical numbers.

Among the tunes already completed are "A Most Unusual Day," by Jimmy McHugh and Harold Adamson; "I'm Strictly On the Corny Side," by Alec Templeton and Stella Unger; "Temptation," by Nacio Herb Brown and Arthur Freed; "Mulligatawny," by Brown and William Katz; "Cookin' With Gas," by Ray Gilbert and Louis Oliveira, and "Cuanto Le Gusto," by Gilbert and Gabriel Ruiz.

Oldies for 'Sons'

Eight old tunes in the public domain, obtained after checking the files of the Library of Congress, will be featured in Universal-International's "All My Sons" film. Leith Stevens is the musical director.



PIANO-POUNTING PETE Johnson, who recently wound up a successful stint at the Hotel Ambassador in Santa Monica, has long been rated as the greatest boogie-woogie pianist in the business. For years he teamed with Joe Turner. Johnson hopes to remain in California until April, at least. Too cold back east.

—Photo by Otto Rothschild.

JOHNNY MERCER and THE KING COLE TRIO



'MY BABY LIKES TO BE-BOP'
Hear Mercer-Cole in a be-bop scat bit.

'YOU CAN'T MAKE MONEY DREAMIN'

CAPITOL RECORD NO. 15026

CAPITOL RECORD NO. 40081

TEX WILLIAMS

And His Western Caravan

'DON'T TELEPHONE—DON'T TELEGRAPH (TELL A WOMAN)'

Tex is "Smoke-Smoke-Smokin'" again.

'BLUE AS A HEART ACHE'

CAPITOL RECORDS

Musicians At Paramount Rate Big Attention

Selection of Paramount music staffs last month to handle music chores on 1948 productions indicates that the studio's musickers will be busier this year than in '47.

The studio swings into 1948 with a heavily stepped-up work program of a dozen pictures assigned to the music department, headed by Louis Lipstone, with three outside composers signed in addition to its own staff of composers and directors.

Hugo Friedhofer, who won the Academy Award for the score of "The Best Years of Our Lives," has been signed as composer of the score for "Sealed Verdict." Frank Skinner has been borrowed from U-I to compose the score for the Paulette Goddard-Macdonald Carey starrer, "Hazard." Frederick Hollander was signed to write three songs for Marlene Dietrich in "A Foreign Affair."

Marking their first full-scoring assignment, the team of Jay Livingston and Ray Evans will write the music for "It's Always Spring," and Joe Lilley will be music director.

Robert Emmett Dolan has been loaned to Rainbow Productions to write the score for the Leo McCarey production "Good Sam," which will be distributed by RKO, and Victor Young has been loaned to Liberty Films to compose the score of "State of the Union," an MGM release. Young also scores "The Long Gray Line" and "A Connecticut Yankee."

Van Cleve has been assigned to the score for "The Sainted Sisters." Irvin Talbot will conduct the score following completion of his composer-director duties on "Gypsy Holiday."

LaSalle Heads West

Dick LaSalle takes his band to Las Vegas for a Feb. 5 opening at the Flamingo Club.



PORTLY JOHN Scott Trotter of the No'th Carolina clan of Trotters lends an assist to pert Ilene Woods, who came in from left field recently to appear as a singing guest on Bing Crosby's ABC show. This is how she looked. And though he isn't shown, Crosby looked pleased too.

Title Songs From Films To Be Exploited By RKO Studios

RKO will continue to exploit title songs in its pictures throughout 1948. Coming up are "If You Knew Susie" and "Your Red Wagon."

In addition the studio has some 11 non-musical films in which songs receive a big play. Irene Dunne sings a Swedish lullaby in "I Remember Mama." Frank Sinatra and Valli harmonize on a couple of Polish ditties in "The Miracle of the Bells." Loretta Young and Robert Mitchum deliver a group of early American ballads in "Tall, Dark Stranger." In "Station West," Burl Ives' familiar ballading is heard, as well as Jane Greer's vocalizing. "Race Street" has Gail Robbins and Cully Richards featured in vocals.

In "Good Sam," Leo McCarey has Joan Loring sing a tune he himself

composed. "Berlin Express" has an old Heidelberg drinking song while "Mystery in Mexico" offers a Mexican melody by Jacqueline White. Marie Bryant sings the title song in "Your Red Wagon," while Lois Andrews sings in "Western Heritage" and Richard Martin in "Wild Horse Mesa."



THAT'S STAN Kenton checking a score with June (Christy) in January as they contemplate a rugged schedule of jazz concerts for this month. Stan, June and the Kenton musicians spent most of last month drawing mobs to the New York Paramount Theater.

Swedish Stick Star Wins L.A. Acclaim

Young Hasselgard A Real Virtuoso

AMERICA is a "pretty fantastic" place where the people are friendly and helpful and where the music is the most stimulating in the world, according to a 25-year-old Swedish clarinetist who is currently being pegged, in Southern California, as a "second Benny Goodman."

Ake "Stan" Hasselgard has enjoyed American jazz ever since he can remember. "I've been buying American records since I was a child," he says, "and Benny Goodman was always my favorite."

Now a Goodman Pal

Hasselgard, who has taken out his first papers with the view towards becoming a naturalized American, plays a lot of clarinet. Goodman himself, who invited the young blond out to the BG home the other night, is one of his biggest boosters. Red Norvo swears by Hasselgard, and when Capitol recorded the Swedish virtuoso recently Norvo and men like Barney Kessel, Arnold Ross and Rollo Garberg jumped at the chance to accompany him.

Stan was reared in Bollnas, a town about 50 miles from Stockholm. In 1939, when he matriculated at world-famous Uppsala University, he organized a college dance band which was aired regularly by the Swedish Broadcasting Corp., a government-sponsored network similar, in the way it operates, to Great Britain's BBC.

Has B. A. Degree

His education was interrupted by the war, and for two years, in 1943-44, Stan served in the Swedish army as an infantryman. Returning to Uppsala, Stan concentrated upon English and History of Arts and was graduated, in May of last year, with a B. A. degree.

In Stockholm last year, shortly before he sailed for the U. S. A. on the Gripsholm, Stan recorded a number of sides with Bob Laine, the pianist, and Simon Brehn, whom Hasselgard considers as good as any bass player in the world "and better than many of the big name bass players in New York and Hollywood." The sides were cut for Sweden's Cupol and Musica labels.

Father a Swedish Judge

On July 1, young Hasselgard arrived in New York. He made a bee-line for the Famous Door on 52nd street and with his Swedish clarinet in one hand, sat listening to Jack Teagarden and Peanuts Hucko. "It was a thrill," he says. "All those years of hearing great jazz



STAN HASSELGARD, just 25, arrived in Los Angeles last fall. Peniless and friendless, he had traveled all the way from his native Sweden, with his clarinet, in an attempt to make good in the U. S. A. Now he's pegged as one of the finest musicians on the west coast, and already he has waxed several waffles which display his musicianship admirably. Read his story at left.

on records; now at last I was seeing it played in the flesh."

Hasselgard's parents (his father is a judge) financed his trip to New York, but when his money ran out the youngster hitched a motor ride to Hollywood with trumpet-toting Johnny Windhurst. Here in California, Stan made friends quickly, working with Johnny White's group after becoming a member of AFM Local 47 and doing odd jobs to pay rent and food tabs.

Disappointed at Concert

Hasselgard met the Capitol Records gang when he came up to the executive offices to inquire as to how he could attend a Goodman recording session. He found out, caught several BG dates with small combo and full orchestra and became friendly with his great idol.

Gene Norman presented Stan as clarinet soloist at the "Just Jazz" concert, but Stan was not at his best. Norman teamed him with Count Basie and the Basie rhythm. "It scared me too much," Hasselgard recalls. "I couldn't blow. I was too excited."

But the other night, on a "Jubilee" show recorded by Armed Forces Radio Service, Hasselgard got going but good. His playing was adjudged so brilliant that the musicians supporting him stood up and cheered.

Wants to Top Benny

Hasselgard is an ebullient young guy, handsome and confident and determined to make good in the States. He likes all types of jazz, but as far as his own blowing goes, he tries to offer new ideas. He is confident enough to believe he can, eventually, play so much stick that he will even top Goodman.

Time will tell. But Hasselgard, in the meantime, isn't loafing. He listens, studies, practices, performs around the clock. He thinks it will be great to some day be called an American jazzman.

'Venus' Rolls With Gardner, Shore

William A. Seiter, who just completed directing Dick Haymes and Deanna Durbin in Universal-International's "Up in Central Park" film musical, leaped right into another on Jan. 26 when he started "One Touch of Venus" rolling.

"Venus" will star Ava Gardner, playing the original Mary Martin stage role, and Dinah Shore, who will have a part as a singing secretary. Several roles haven't yet been assigned. Les Cowan is the producer.

Nellie LUTCHER
And Her Rhythm

CAPITOL RECORD NO. 40063

'DO YOU OR DON'T YOU LOVE ME'

Same tempo and musicians as "Real Gone Guy"

'THE SONG IS ENDED'
(But the Melody Lingers On)



peggy lee

With Dave Barbour And His Orchestra
'MAÑANA'
Novelty song with a Latin flavor

'ALL DRESSED UP WITH A BROKEN HEART'

CAPITOL RECORD NO. 15022

February Head-Liners . .



RED NORVO'S scowrd is a current extra added attraction the Benny Goodman Sextet, both affles and personal appearances. A Grian now, Norvo makes his home in Monica, just outside Hollywood. So Goodman.

MAGGIE WILK and Peggy Lee, at right, offend that the thermometer pricks in "sunny" California. Huddled together over an outdoor stove, the two orioles gnawing hot dogs and jamoke during "March of Dimes" presentation has since trained east with Durante's troupe.



WALTER GROSS, seated, teamed with Ernie Filice (left) and Clark Dennis to launch the new Cezar Club in Hollywood on a fantastic success story last month. With bistros folding nightly throughout the Los Angeles area, Cezar's is doing turnaway biz by virtue of its Gross-Filice-Dennis marquee combination.

Spanier, Mole Skedding Trip To California

Dixieland jazz won't die in Hollywood even though Pete Daily takes his crew to San Francisco after a long and profitable run at the Hangover Club.

News from Chicago indicates that Mugsy Spanier and his Ragtimers are California-bound, guided by Papa Joe Glaser, ostensibly for a late February or March opening. Miff Mole, trombone; Tony Parenti, clarinet, and Davey Tough, drums, have been working the Blue Note Club in Chicago with Mugsy and while it is definite that the veteran Mole will come west, negotiations are in progress for Ray Bauduc to replace Tough.

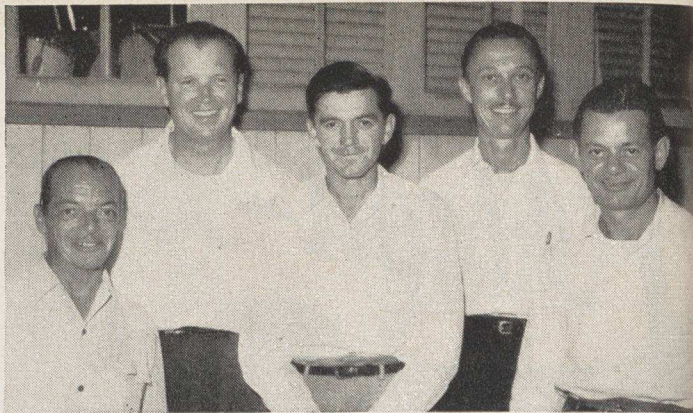
Tough has been ailing since last fall and was forced to miss part of the Chicago engagement. Bauduc is not yet set, but the deal for him to join the little Chicagoan's combo is in the works.

Spanier hasn't worked California since he was a member of the Bob Crosby Dixie band. His driving, Oliver-like cornet has a legion of loyal followers.

Anita O'Day Plans New Trip to East

Despite feeble nitery business throughout the Greater Los Angeles area the last two or three months, Anita O'Day drew a holdover ticket along with Johnny White's Quintet at Angelino's eatery, smart Santa Monica spot on Wilshire just west of Hollywood.

The "Bootwhip" girl has been drawing good patronage. White's combo also is given credit. The former Goodman vibes virtuoso has whipped up a little unit that is one of the few exciting groups around these days. Anita and Johnny are already making plans to play Chicago and New York night clubs starting in March or April.



PETE DAILY is the little man in the middle who has (with Kid Ory and Wingy Manone) spearheaded the Dixieland jazz movement in Southern California in recent years. Soon to be heard on Capitol waffles, Daily's combo features Skippy Anderson, piano; Rosy McHargue, clarinet; George DeFebaugh, drums, and Warren Smith, trombone. Daily plays cornet. McHargue for many years was a Ted Weems star and Smith handled most of the hot 'bone in the memorable Bob Crosby band. Their Hollywood hangout is the Hangover Club on Vine Street.

Music Clicks In Television Despite Petrillo's Attitude

Although J. C. Petrillo still refuses to allow members of the American Federation of Musicians to play for or even be interviewed in television, Hollywood jockey Gene Norman is nevertheless succeeding with a video musical show which is attracting national attention.

Norman's half-hour "Stump the Stars" stanza is televised by Paramount's KTLA in Hollywood at 7:30 p.m. every Friday with top-name vocalists appearing as guests. A quiz-type program, "Stump the Stars" relies on records, from which Norman drafts questions which the singers and regular guest Dave Dexter must answer.

Numerous stations feature jockeys who interview prominent personalities, KTLA executives point out, but Norman's is believed to be the first regular program with a novel twist featuring

an audience-participation gimmick. Norman, to top it off, is sponsored by Philco. Record albums are sent to viewers who submit musical questions, a la "Information Please," which the guests are unable to answer. Virginia Maxey, Jean Taylor, Gordon MacRae, Lorry Raine and others have been featured as "experts" along with Dexter since "Stump the Stars" started on KTLA Jan. 2.

Meet the Jock!

ELGIE (JUMP) JORDAN mixes biscuits and palaver over Akron's WADC airplanes, and he keeps those lanes warm with the finest in recorded jazz. A writer, Jump jumped to radio during the war while a member of the armed forces, spinning platters in the Azores. Still unmarried, and 29, his hobbies are golf and collecting discs. Duke Ellington is his fave band and Ben Goodman his choice for best soloist. The photo tells the rest, but it doesn't show the 5,000 waffles that Jump hoards in his personal collection.



Woody Rarin' To Open At The Pally Feb. 3rd.

"Why do writers twist statements to coincide with their own views?"

That was Woody Herman's query when he returned to Hollywood on the eve of his Feb. 3 opening at the Palladium.

"One music mag quotes me," snorted Woodrow, "as stating my new band is all-out, 100 per cent bop in style. Another has me popping off that the band will return to the old pre-war blues style."

Anxious to Open

"Actually, the herd is playing a little of every type music. We try to be modern but we try not to resort to unmusical voicing tricks to achieve new sounds. You'll hear be-bop passages and you'll hear blues in the old tradition. We are even having a lot of success with concert-type scores, some out of tempo, which Ralph Burns has conceived recently."

Woody is eager to return to the Palladium, where he has always been a top favorite. His new band is featuring a new voicing of reeds with three tenors, one alto and a baritone featured. Al Cohen just replaced Herbie Steward on sax, and Jugs Rainey is new in the band on guitar, taking over Gene Sargent's book. Sargent is seriously ill.

Excellent Rhythm Section

Mary Ann McCall also will return to the Palladium with Herman's revamped herd. Songstress Jeri Ney left the band in January.

With Don Lamond on drums, Walt Yoder on bass, Rainey on guitar and Freddy Otis at the Knabe, Herman believes he has "as good a rhythm section as there is." Ernie Royal is blowing gobs of hot trumpet and handling most of the solo spots. He's rated by Herman as "one of the most exciting horns in any Herman band—and you can even take that back to the Isham Jones days."

N. Y. Commodore in March

Serge Chaloff, baritone; Stan Getz and Zoot Sims, tenors, and the little Milwaukee man's own clarinet and alto contributions are other highlights of a driving, spirited outfit that may soon be rated as great as was the ill-fated 1946 herd which Woody was forced to disband 14 months ago.

Woody will play the N. Y. Hotel Commodore in late March following his Palladium booking.



KEY MEN in the new Woody Herman band which opens at the Hollywood Palladium Feb. 3 are Ralph Burns, chief arranger and composer of numerous original manuscripts for the group, and veteran bass-player Walt Yoder, who is the only original sideman still playing with Woody. This shot was snapped at a rehearsal.

Meet the Jock!

JOHN FRENCH, whom listeners call Jack or "Ol' Jackson," is top hand in the jockey stable at KIL0 in Grand Forks, N. D. They let him go wild on Saturday afternoons, and that's when French hauls out his Peggy Lee needleings. Peg, a Dakotan by birth, happens to be French's favorite finch. Doris Day, he says, rates second choice. Quick with the ad libs, French is solidly established in North Dakota and Western Minnesota.



Beneke To Air From The Road

Tex Beneke and his band wind up a frantic stay in Hollywood Feb. 1 and will take to the road, presenting their new "On the Beam With Beneke" airshow over Mutual's web every Friday from various cities.

The show is sponsored by the U. S. Air Force with weekly guest stars—high school students—featured along with Garry Stevens and the Moonlight Serenaders. During his Hollywood stay, Beneke played the Palladium, made two film shorts, started his new radio series and managed to cram in a number of interviews with California wax-whirlers.

Gordon MacRae

'THOUGHTLESS'
Gordon's rich baritone in a wonderful ballad.
'YOU WERE MEANT FOR ME'
Featured in the 20th Century-Fox Picture.
CAPITOL RECORD NO. 15027



JULIA LEE
And Her Boy Friends



'KING SIZE PAPA'
Lyrics like you've never heard before.

'WHEN YOU'RE SMILING'
(The Whole World Smiles With You)

Capitol RECORDS
REG. U. S. PAT. OFF.

off the cuff

AN EXHAUSTED, road-weary Jimmy Dorsey abandoned his band in December, returned to his Hollywood home to take a long rest, and then was stricken with a severe type of influenza.

But Jimmy was bouncing back into shape by mid-January, with ambitious plans to form another—an even better—orchestra featuring a half-dozen new faces. For two decades one of the most gentlemanly and best-liked guys in the music profession, Jimmy believes he will be playing engagements again sometime in March. He's eating, sleeping and shooting an occasional round of golf, meanwhile, trying to get back his strength.

Harry Schooler is struggling to keep the old Meadowbrook Ballroom going. Last month he changed its name to the Mardi Gras (the room was known for more than a decade as the Casa Manana and also as Sebastian's Cotton Club) and is trying a radical policy featuring no admission fee, the idea being that sale of food and drinks will bring profits.

Schooler has brought in Bob Summers' orchestra, unknown on the west coast, and will try to keep the Mardi Gras open six nights a week. He asserts he lost money on the recent Lionel Hampton and Count Basie engagements.

Ginny Jackson is the singer who took to the road with Gene Autry.

Still a great troupier and prize performer. That was the town's conclusion after watching the veteran Ethel Waters return to headliner status at Slapsy Maxie's Jan. 3. She will probably make a film before going east again. Danny Thomas and Kay Starr replaced her Jan. 19 with Bill Millner's ork held over.

Important Stan Kenton concerts skedded this month are Pittsburgh, Feb. 18;



JUVE ACTOR Henry Blair, who acted the role of Rusty in Cap's smash "Rusty in Orchestraville" album, improvises his own music at his Hollywood home. Young Henry also was featured in "Sparky and the Talking Train" and is regularly heard on the "Ozzie and Harriet," "Beulah," "One Man's Family" and "Today's Children" airshows. He is said to be the busiest juvenile in show business.

Purdue U. at Lafayette, Ind., Feb. 20, and following night at the Civic Opera House in Chicago, a repeat. Stan gets half of all box-office receipts at all his concert dates.

Mocambo is featuring two bands, Chauncey Grey's and Isabelita's.

Ira Cook renewed for another year on his KFAC 10 to midnight disc show. It's the only pop music heard on the station.

Jordan Back In Action; Plans Another Movie

Shuffling back from a combined vacation and medical checkup of 10 weeks, Louis Jordan will take his Tympany Seven into the Golden Gate Theater in San Francisco on Feb. 25 for a week, to be followed by a week at the L. A. Lincoln Theater and film work.

The "film work" will be something different, inasmuch as Jordan and his manager, Berle Adams will produce the feature themselves for independent release, this summer, throughout the U. S. The picture will be shot in color, according to Adams, and will be full length with Jordan's music emphasized.

During his current hiatus, Jordan is having facial scars removed by plastic surgery. There will be at least two new musicians in the band when it reassembles late this month for the San Francisco engagement, Adams added. But the style of the group will remain much the same.

Jordan's group returns east in April or May immediately after the film is completed. Previous flickers made by Jordan and Adams featuring Louie's shuffle-rhythm ork proved highly successful at the box-office.

Palladium Will Offer Spivak Ork

Maurice Cohen of the Hollywood Palladium last month announced the Charlie Spivak's band would follow Woody Herman's starting March 16.

Spivak has played the Pally twice previously. Also in line for runs at the ornate dancery in 1948 are the pop orks of Ray McKinley, who has never played the spot; Stan Kenton, Gene Krupa, Samuel Kaye and Claude Thornhill. Spivak will hold forth only four weeks.

New Title Tagged For Doris Day Pic

Doris Day's first big movie will be released as "Romance On the High Seas" after months of publicizing it as "Romance in High C." The title change was made by Warner Brothers. Jack Carson co-stars with the former Les Brown singer. Mike Curtiz produced it.

Eddie Robertson, singer, and Dick Peterson's ork opened in mid-January at the Zamboanga.



ANDY RUSSELL bounced back, but quick, from his recent tonsilectomy and skied east for a run at the New York Paramount Theater. His doctor asserts that the troublesome throat ailment which necessitated cancelling a tour last fall will "never again" plague Russell.

Her work completed in Columbia's "Trail to Laredo" western, Virginia Maxey is now awaiting a more important acting and singing role in a forthcoming Columbia musical. She's the same Maxey who sang with Tony Pastor, Bobby Byrne and other bands, as well as the Modernaires. Columbia just signed her to a long-term contract and will build her as a film star.

Pat Andrews and husband, Marty Melcher, moved into their new home at 12448 Sarah street, North Hollywood. They were married last fall after a romance of at least 10 years.

Gene Autry will serve as grand marshal at annual Fat Stock Show in Houston Feb. 1 to 15.

Bing Crosby was able to wax enough airshows to run him through March 17. From then on, he goes live. Those retirement rumors, too, persist.

Beatrice Kay wound her run at Florentine Gardens and opened, on Jan. 27, at San Fran's Fairmont Hotel.

Eddie Robertson, who started as a bassist, landed regular vocal spot on Mutual's famed "California Melodies" program via KHJ.

The new year already is a smashing success for Dinah Shore and her actor-hubby, George Montgomery. Their long-awaited daughter, Melissa Ann, arrived on Jan. 4 (about a month overdue) at Cedars of Lebanon Hospital in L. A. "We began to wonder," says Dinah, "if she ever would get here." Dinah's physician hurried the arrival, finally, by undertaking a Caesarian operation. The Montgomerys live in Encino, just outside Hollywood.

Stirring up a breeze in California by virtue of her song-stylings is Ernestine Anderson, who worked the Meadow-



SWINGING INTO "big time" circles with a vengeance, Kay Starr currently is sharing top billing at Hollywood's Slapsy Maxie's niter with Danny Thomas. Here, she's pictured on a recent transcription date for Armed Forces Radio Service, which beams programs to military men all over the world and to those hospitalized in the U. S. Kay's third record for Capitol will be released this month.

brook as chirp with Johnny (Drums) Otis' ork. Lotsa talk about her talents.

Blonde Jean Taylor, a fixture with Jimmy Grier's old band for many seasons and more recently spotted as canary with Hal Derwin's California combina-

tion, waxed four sides with Count Basie's band just before P-Day. Basie manager Milt Ebbins then swooped in, signed her to a p.m. binder, and is trying to set her for pix at MGM. She's also been guesting on Gene Norman's Friday KTLA television shows.

Clark Dennis

With **BILLY MAY** And His Orchestra

'YOU ARE NEVER AWAY'
A romantic theme from the Musical, "Allegro."

'I'LL NEVER SAY I LOVE YOU'
From the Columbia Picture, "Sign of the Ram."

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JO STAFFORD

With The Starlighters And Paul Weston's Mountain Boys

'I'M MY OWN GRANDMAW'
Jo goes "hill-country" again a la "Tim-Tayshun."

'HAUNTED HEART'
From the Musical "Inside U.S.A."

CAPITOL RECORD NO. 15023

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WOODY HERMAN: Palladium.
KAY STARR: Slapsy Maxie's.
ELLA FITZGERALD: Billy Berg's opening Feb. 18.

XAVIER CUGAT: Giro's.
JOE LUTCHER: Club Congo.
CHAUNCEY GREY: Mocambo.
ISABELITA: Mocambo.
HARRY JAMES: Aragon Ballroom.
FREDDY MARTIN: Ambassador Hotel.
JAN GARBER: Biltmore Hotel.
ANITA O'DAY: Angelino's.
JOHNNY WHITE: Angelino's.
DICK PETERSON: Zamboanga.
BOB SUMMERS: Mardi Gras.
PETE DAILY: Hangover Club.
DUSTY BROOKS: Cricket Club.
ZUTTY SINGLETON: Swanee Inn.
CHUCK GOULD: Florentine Gardens.
RAY ANDRADE: Breneman's.
ABBEY BROWNE, Charley Foy's.
SLIM GAILLARD: Melodee Club.

Under The Wire In Times Smoky Rogers Etches Wax

By LEE GILLETTE

Upon his return from a highly successful theater tour with Tex Williams' Western Caravan, Smoky Rogers was handed a New Year's present by Capitol execs in the form of a recording contract. Smoky was able to cut quite a number of exceptional sides before P-Day ban, all of them with the backing of Tex Williams' crew.

Rogers, a native of McMinnville, Tenn., spent his early years in and around Detroit where he played guitar and sang on WJR. The first money he earned as a musician happened accidentally.

Mayor Murphy of Detroit was scheduled to talk at Smoky's school and was late in arriving. Smoky kept the audience amused while they were waiting by playing his guitar and singing. When the mayor made his planned appearance, he handed the delighted lad two dollars. It was the first realization that it was possible for him to make money from his music.

After his stint at WJR, Smoky left Detroit to join Texas Jim Lewis at the Village Barn in New York City. He remained with the Lewis outfit until 1943, when he became a member of Spade Cooley's crew at Venice Pier in Venice, Calif. In July, 1946, when the major portion of Cooley's band resigned to reorganize under the direction of Tex Williams, Smoky tagged along, and became one of the strong cogs in the Williams' wheel of fortune. Rogers will continue as one of the stars of the Western Caravan. Smoky's first Capitol release is his own "Spanish Fandango" backed by "Thinkin' And A-Drinkin'" and it shapes up as a strong contender for the hit jackpot. And, luckily, he has



SMOKY Rogers, who figures prominently in the news this month, accepts Tex Williams' congratulations. Lee Gillette's column tells why.

many others on the shelf, awaiting release.

Wesley Tuttle, whose WSM Grand Ole Opry guest appearance last month turned out to be terrific, is back in Hollywood, doing daily airshots with Cliffie Stone on KXLA and p.a.'s on weekends. His newest record, "Cry Yourself to Sleep" is his best since "With Tears In My Eyes," according to jockeys. Welsey, who carried a large band with him which he called the Texas Stars, has returned to a small combo and it's considerably more effective.

Television is being invaded by the cowboys! Cottonseed Clark's new Bar None-Ranch on KTLA every Monday night is creating quite a bit of talk around Gower street. Capitol Stars Cliffie Stone and Tex Ritter have already done appearances.

Jimmy Wakely started his first picture for 1948 last week at Monogram. Hank "Humpty Dumpty Heart" Thompson is back in Waco after a week's visit to Hollywood. He made the trip out here by airplane, along with some deer meat which, as Tex Ritter would say, "Won't bad!"

Look sharp. Feel sharp. BE sharp! Read Gillette every month in the Capitol News for exclusive, punchy news of your favorite western and hill country artists.

CAPITOL NEWS

At Last...Now Available!

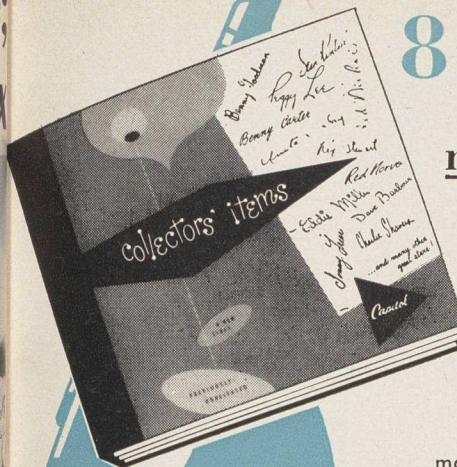
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 TRAVELIN' MAN . . . Stan Kenton with Anita O'Day
 BABY . . . Peggy Lee with Dave Barbours
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 I APOLOGIZE . . . Hollywood Hucksters

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 THE MOON WAS YELLOW
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 ORCHIDS IN THE MOONLIGHT

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 I'VE GOT THE WORLD ON A STRING

redingle
and
THE NATURAL SEVEN

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'NOWHERE'
Red in that old "Tim-Tayshun" groove!

'PAGAN NINNY'S KEEP 'ER GOIN' STOMP'

Capitol RECORDS



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★ MEET BG's EMMA LOU ★



READY NOW for a vacation trip to Venezuela, Benny Goodman is shown on his last platter session, in Hollywood, with Kansas-reared Emma Lou Welch hard at work projecting lyrics into a Capitol mike. Benny expected to

leave for South America about Feb. 5. He will return, he said, after "four or five weeks visiting friends" in the oil country. His new record of "Beyond the Sea" features a feminine string section. It will be released Feb. 2.